GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:232
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
SOIL EROSION IN CHAMBAL REGION
Argal Shri Ashok

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made to check the soil erosion taking place in ravines of Chambal due to the Chambal River;

(b) the areas likely to be eroded in the next 50 years at the current rate of erosion;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a scheme to check it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): To minimize soil erosion, land degradations and to reduce flood peaks & volume of runoff, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Programme of Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project & Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR) in 56 catchments including the Chambal catchment. Under the RVP & FPR Programme in the Chambal Catchment falling in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, upto 2007-08, the degraded area of 5.59 lakh ha. has been developed with an expenditure of Rs.100.07 crore.

(b): As per the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), about 0.16 lakh ha area of land is engulfed by existing ravines every year. However, there is no estimate available regarding the areas likely to be eroded in the next 50 years.

(c) & (d): The Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute, Kota (Rajasthan), a Regional Institute of ICAR has developed and demonstrated technology packages for reclamation of the Chambal ravines. These technologies are disseminated to the concerned State Governments including Non − Governmental Organizations for adoption. Under this technology package of ICAR, about 3.00 lakh ha. area of Chambal ravines in Madhya Pradesh and about 1.4 lakh ha. area in Rajasthan have been restored through various watershed/wastelands development programmes. The Programme of RVP &FPR is also being continued to be implemented in the XI Five Year Plan.